

542,008

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
26 August 2004 (26.08.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/072529 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **F16L 1/12**,
E02D 9/04, E21B 29/12

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/EP2004/001094

(22) International Filing Date: 6 February 2004 (06.02.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
GE2003A000011 12 February 2003 (12.02.2003) IT

(71) Applicant and
(72) Inventor: MATTEUCCI, Francesco [IT/TT]; Via Gualco
4b, I-16165 Genova (IT).

(74) Agents: PORSIA, Attilio et al.; Succ.Ing. Fischetti &
Weber, Via Caffaro, 3/2, I-16124 Genova (IT).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,

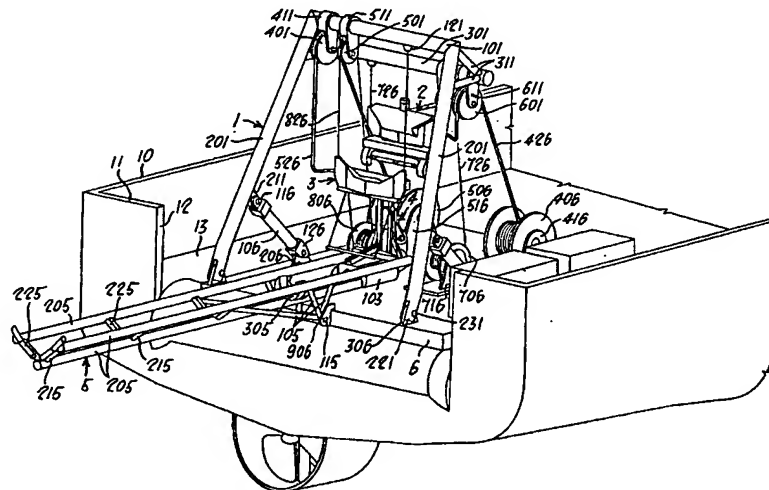
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,
TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM,
ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),
Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), Euro-
pean (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR,
GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK,
TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW,
ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: METHOD FOR CUTTING AND REMOVING UNDERWATER PIPELINES AND APPARATUS FOR IMPLEMENT-
ING THIS METHOD



(57) Abstract: Method for cutting and removing underwater pipelines, comprising the following steps: a) determining the position of the underwater pipeline to be removed; b) positioning, on the said line, guiding means for positioning cutting means and means for recovering the cut pipe sections, said guiding means being able to be repositioned along said line and being stably connected to a boat intended to collect the recovered sections; c) guided positioning of the cutting means and guided positioning of the recovery means; d) cutting of the pipe section of predetermined length and subsequent removal of said section by means of said recovery means; e) transfer of the pipe section recovered by said recovery means to said boat; f) repositioning of the guiding means along the remaining line portion to be removed and repetition of the preceding steps c) to e) until the underwater pipeline has been completely removed; and an apparatus for implementing this method.

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